

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 01497 201528Z  
ACTION CU-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 /021 W  
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R 201430Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3937  
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 1497

STATE FOR CU/ARA; USIA FOR ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OEXCN, SCUL, DR  
SUBJECT: VI PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR ON THE CONTEMPORARY US,  
MARCH 5-10, 1978

1. THE SIXTH ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES SPONSORED BY BNC SANTO DOMINGO AND EX-GRANTEE ASSOCIATION ENDED MARCH 10 WITH 276 OUTSTANDING DOMINICAN PARTICIPANTS RECEIVING CERTIFICATES. SEMINAR CONSISTED OF NINE 10-HOUR COURSES OFFERED BY US UNIVERSITY EXPERTS, HIGHLIGHTED BY NOTED AUTHOR ERSKINE CALDWELL AND LEADING CARIBBEAN ANTHROPOLOGIST LAMBROS COMITAS, IN FOLLOWING FIELDS: SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY, ART, FOREIGN POLICY, ECONOMICS, ENERGY, HISTORY, LITERATURE, MASS COMMUNICATIONS, AND SOCIOLOGY. SEMINAR HAD RECORD 410 APPLICANTS (82 REJECTED AS UNQUALIFIED, 27 IN ATTENDANCE PART TIME OR LOST TO ATTRITION). IN ADDITION, THERE WERE 25 AUDITORS WHO ATTENDED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS.

2. IN ADDITION TO DAILY COURSES RESTRICTED TO PROFESSIONALS IN SUBJECT OR RELATED FIELDS, SEMINAR OFFERED 9, AND PROFESSOR-STUDENT CONTACT GENERATED 5, WELL-TEENED PUBLIC LECTURES ON BNC PREMISES, UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES, NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART, NATIONAL LIBRARY, TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE PRESIDENCY AND MOST PRESTIGIOUS ANTHROPOLOGY MUSEUM. FOUR PROFESSORS PARTICIPATED  
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IN TV INTERVIEWS, AND SEVERAL GAVE INFORMAL PRESS AND RADIO INTERVIEWS. ALL PROFESSORS WERE WILLING TO MEET FREQUENTLY WITH DOMINICAN COLLEAGUES AND EXCHANGE IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS.

3. EXCELLENT PRE-SEMINAR PUBLICITY, STRONG SUPPORT FROM IMPORTANT NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, REPUTATION OF SEMINAR AS OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC EXCHANGE IN DOMINICAN INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY, AND

EXCEPTIONAL CALIBER OF US FACULTY MEMBERS, ALLOWED SEMINAR TO CONTINUE TO ATTRACT LARGE NUMBER OF ADS AUDIENCES AS PARTICIPANTS. AMONG THE 90 ADS MEMBERS THAT RECEIVED CERTIFICATES WERE EDITOR OF MOST INFLUENTIAL MORNING DAILY, UNDER-SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, UNDER-SECRETARY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, PRESIDENT OF DOMINICAN ASSOCIATION OF SOCIOLOGISTS, DIRECTOR OF FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES, VARIOUS DEANS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS OF UNIVERSITIES, POLITICAL LEADERS, TV STATION OWNERS, PRODUCERS, COMMENTATORS, CORRESPONDENTS, PROMINENT PAINTERS AND MUSEUM STAFF MEMBERS. PARTICIPANTS ALSO INCLUDED 77 UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS PLUS REPRESENTATIVE DECISION-MAKERS FROM GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES.

4. THE SEMINAR ON MASS COMMUNICATIONS DESERVES SPECIAL MENTION. THIS SEMINAR OFFERED FOR THE FIRST TIME ATTRACTED 62 DOMINICAN MEDIA LEADERS ON A DAILY BASIS. OVER 20 QUALIFIED CANDIDATES HAD TO BE TURNED DOWN BECAUSE OF CLASS SIZE LIMITATIONS.

5. US FACULTY MEMBERS FOUND TIME FOR WIDE-RANGEING CONTACTS OUTSIDE OF "CLASSES" WITH THEIR DOMINICAN COLLEAGUES. THESE INFORMAL SESSIONS BETWEEN PROFESSIONALS GREATLY STIMULATED MUTUAL COMPREHENSION AND CONFIDENCE AS WELL AS STRENGTHENING TRANSNATIONAL LINKAGES BETWEEN ACADEMIC AND INTELLECTUAL LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. MOST OF THE US PROFESSORS PRESENTED OR AGREED TO SEND PROFESSIONAL WORKS FOR MAJOR DOMINICAN INSTITUTIONS. IN RETURN, THEY RECEIVED FOR THEIR UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

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PROFESSIONAL WORKS BY DOMINICAN INTELLECTUALS.

6. SEMINAR RECEIVED EXCELLENT PRESS COVERAGE DURING WEEK OF ACTIVITIES AND CONTINUES TO RECEIVE CONSIDERABLE COLUMN INCHES. EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION FOR SEMINAR, SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE PARTICIPANTS, AND REQUESTS THAT SEMINAR BE TAKEN TO INTERIOR CITIES CONTINUE TO BE SENT TO EMBASSY, USIS AND BNCM.

7. POST BELIEVES THAT THIS TYPE OF PROGRAMMING EXAMPLIFIES A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE APPROACH TOWARD MEETING THE CHALLENGE PRESENTED BY THE TWO MAJOR GOALS OF OUR NEW AGENCY AS OUTLINED IN PART B OF 1979-80 INSTRUCTIONS FOR CPP.

8. SEMINAR MADE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO ALL CP OBJECTIVES.

9. MORE DETAILED ACCOUNT OF SEMINAR AND RELATED ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING PRESS CLIPPINGS) FOLLOWS BY AIRGRAM.  
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Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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